Protecting Los Angeles County Residents Regardless of Immigration Status

The recent presidential election has provoked anxiety, fear, and protest among many County residents. Los Angeles County is home to more than 3 million immigrant residents. Nearly half are citizens; the remainder includes legal permanent residents, refugees granted asylum, immigrants granted temporary relief under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and undocumented immigrants. In fact, 57% of Los Angeles-area children have a foreign born parent. Los Angeles County needs to assure these families that their leaders will defend their rights and interests no matter what.

Since I was elected, Los Angeles County has taken several steps to protect our immigrant communities. We launched a countywide effort to support the implementation of DACA by providing education and outreach throughout our County facilities. We established regulatory structures to protect against wage theft and notario fraud, which disproportionately impact immigrant communities. We also acted to end the destructive 287(g) program, which authorized Sheriff's deputies to perform the functions of federal immigration agents, and to prohibit the federal Immigration & Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) from operating a permanent office in our jail facilities. Lastly, we insisted that the Sheriff, in implementing President Obama's Priority Enforcement Program (PEP), put in place policies and procedures that prevented racial profiling and provided access to legal representation.

Many of the election promises made by President-Elect Donald Trump during his campaign would, if enacted, have devastating consequences for Los Angeles County—not just for immigrant communities, but for our entire economy, safety net, and sense of community. For example, the President-Elect's commitment to repealing Obamacare could withdraw health insurance coverage from hundreds of thousands of residents, causing County emergency rooms to once again flood with uninsured patients with

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nowhere else to go. Another example: should the new president follow through on his pledge to repeal the DACA program, nearly half a million County residents previously eligible for protection could face removal; worse, the data supplied by residents who have already applied for DACA relief could be used by federal authorities to target them or their families.

That such actions would tear the social fabric connecting Los Angeles County residents is plain. That this Board of Supervisors must stand up for these residents is also, to me, clear. The County should act now to prepare for significant changes in federal policy and to develop a strategy for protecting our residents regardless of immigration status.

I WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- 1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to immediately convert the existing County DACA Task Force into the County Immigrant Protection and Advancement Task Force, which would be responsible for developing and recommending strategies for protecting immigrants, and to report back, in consultation with established civil and immigrant rights organizations, within 45 30 days at a regularly scheduled public board meeting with:
 - a. Recommendations for a Countywide strategy, including specific recommendations from each Department, for protecting immigrant residents;
 - b. Analysis of the feasibility of creating an Office or Department of Immigrant Affairs to serve and protect all immigrant residents of Los Angeles County, including preliminary recommendations for what the mission, roles, responsibilities, and organizational structure of such an agency might be;
 - c. Analysis of the potential funding impacts to the County and potential service impacts to County residents if receipt of federal funds are conditioned on compliance with current or proposed requirements relating to immigration enforcement;
- 2. Direct the Superintendent of the Office of Education, in consultation with other local school districts and institutions of public higher education and with established civil and immigration rights organizations, to report back within 45_30 days at a regularly scheduled public board meeting with an analysis of potential impacts on students, family members, or school employees and recommendations for addressing such impacts;
- Direct the Chief Information Officer to report back in writing within 45 30 days with a plan for protecting the data and identities of County residents who may be adversely affected by federal policy changes;
- 4. Direct County Counsel to report back in writing within 45 30 days with an analysis of the President's legal authority to modify current laws and policies affecting immigration; penalties that may be legally imposed by the federal government on

local governments for failing to adhere to existing and/or newly enacted immigration laws; and any and all legal options available to the County to challenge the constitutionality of existing and/or newly enacted immigration laws or policies. This analysis should include consideration of the County's authority to limit federal enforcement actions in locations where immigrants regularly engage public services and institutions, such as courthouses, schools, and hospitals; and

5. Request that the Sheriff's department report back within 45 30 days at a regularly scheduled public board meeting with a description of any changes to current policy, practices, and/or procedures that he plans to implement if the President-Elect moves to implement the mass deportation policies articulated during the campaign. policies, practices and/or procedures currently in place in the Sheriff's Department related to immigrant residents and any planned changes in any of these practices, policies and procedures should the President Elect move to implement mass deportation.

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